

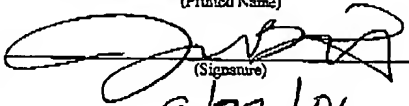
SEP 27 2006

Atty. Dkt. No. 040388-0131

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** Laurent MEIJER *et al.*

**Title:** MEANS FOR INDUCING  
DIFFERENTIATION OF  
SUPERNUMERARY HAIR  
CELLS AND DEITER'S CELLS  
IN THE DEVELOPING ORGAN  
OF CORTI

<b>CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION</b> I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Alexandria, Virginia on the date below.  Julienne P. Britt (Printed Name)   (Signature)  9/27/06 (Date of Deposit)
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**Appl. No.:** 10/539,407

**International Filing Date:** December 17, 2003

**Examiner:** Laura J. Schuberg

**Art Unit:** 1651

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated May 15, 2006, concerning the above-referenced patent application. By virtue of the concurrently filed petition for extension of time and the payment of the prescribed fees, the response is timely filed.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this document.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this document.

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